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*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
•Practice limited to
Federal Agencies

December 22, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1755

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/780,863; Filed: February 19, 2004
For: **Ceramic Nanocomposite Powders Reinforced With Carbon
Nanotubes and Their Fabrication Process**
Inventors: HONG *et al.*
Our Ref: 2236.0010000/JUK/SMW

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 (2 sheets);
3. Copies of cited documents AR1, AS1, AT1, and AR2; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
December 22, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. M. Woodhouse", written over the firm name.

Scott M. Woodhouse
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 54,747

Enclosures

347309_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Hong *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/780,863

Filed: February 19, 2004

For: **Ceramic Nanocomposite Powders
Reinforced with Carbon Nanotubes
and Their Fabrication Process**

Confirmation No.: 1952

Art Unit: 1755

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Atty. Docket: 2236.0010000/JUK/SMW

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. A copy of each document is provided.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached Form PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

Hong *et al.*
Appl. No. 10/780,863

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

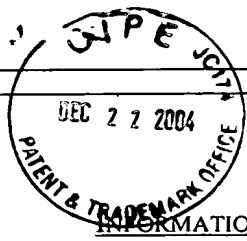
Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S M Woodhouse", written in a cursive style.

Scott M. Woodhouse
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 54,747

Date: December 22, 2004
1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600
345262_1.DOC



DEC 22 2004

FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
2236.0010000/JUK/SMW

APPLICATION NO.
10/780,863

APPLICANT(S)
Hong *et al.*

FILING DATE
February 19, 2004

ART UNIT
1755

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN						Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	1	Laurent, C., <i>et al.</i> , "Carbon Nanotubes-Fe-Alumina Nanocomposites. Part II: Microstructure and Mechanical Properties of the Hot-Pressed Composites," <i>J. Eur. Ceram. Soc.</i> 18:2005-2013, Elsevier Science Ltd. (1998)
	AS	1	Peigney, A., <i>et al.</i> , "Carbon nanotubes in novel ceramic matrix nanocomposites," <i>Ceram. Int.</i> 26:677-683, Elsevier (2000)
	AT	1	Siegel, R.W., <i>et al.</i> , "Mechanical behavior of polymer and ceramic matrix nanocomposites," <i>Scripta Mater.</i> 44:2061-2064, Pergamon Press (2001)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTATTY. DOCKET NO.
2236.0010000/JUK/SMWAPPLICATION NO.
10/780,863APPLICANT(S)
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1755**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
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	AK						

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	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN						Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AR	<u>2</u>	Xu, C.L., <i>et al.</i> , "Fabrication of aluminum-carbon nanotube composites and their electrical properties," <i>Carbon</i> 37:855-858, Pergamon Press (1999)
	AS		
	AT		

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.